

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/525,243

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

David J. Makiya

2885

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/25/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9,21 and 22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

***Examiner's Comment***

Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 4/25/2007, with respect to claims 9, 21, and 22 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the claims has been withdrawn.

***Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims recite a door mirror for a vehicle, comprising a light assembly mounted in a mirror housing comprising an outer base, an inner base with light sources and a lens portion abutted against the outer base and wherein the light assembly is provided with a coupler to supply electric power to the light sources, a base portion of the coupler is accommodated into a first coupler supporting piece on an outer base side with a lead wire connected to the light source, the first coupler supporting piece on the outer base side abutted against a second coupler supporting piece on the lens portion side and the first coupler supporting piece and the second coupler supporting piece integrated together with a resin to integrate the lens portion with the outer base.

Because none of the references disclosed teach or suggest the details of a first coupler supporting piece on an outer base side with a lead wire connected to the light source abutted and integrated together with a resin against a second coupler supporting piece on the lens portion side to integrate the lens portion with the outer base, nor is there any motivation to combine them, the claims are deemed patentable over the prior art of record.

Rodriguez Barros et al. (US Patent 6,926,432) teaches a door mirror (e.g., D) with a light assembly (e.g. A) having an outer base (e.g., 10), an inner base (e.g., 12), and a lens portion (e.g., 1), a coupler (e.g., 211) to supply electric power, and a first coupler supporting piece (e.g., 50)

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on an outer base side of the light assembly accommodating the base end of the coupler.

However, the prior art taken as a whole does not teach or suggest details of a second coupler supporting piece nor does it teach or suggest the second coupler supporting pieces on the lens portion side abutting the first coupler supporting piece on the outer base with the lead wire connected to the light source.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Miller (US Patents 6,582,109 and 6,227,689) and Evans (US 2005/0047160) teach door mirrors with light assemblies, a coupler, and a first coupler supporting piece but fail to teach a second couple supporting piece on a lens portion side abutting the first coupler supporting piece.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J. Makiya whose telephone number is (571) 272-2273. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am - 4:00pm (ET).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jong (James) Lee can be reached on (571) 272-7044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DJM 07/10/2007



JONG-SUK (JAMES) LEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER